^ £
ATMOSPHERIC WATER
(Moisture content mainly in the form of water vapor)
.-
;••''; •*>.-;>.. rv ^feH^'v;; •>^-*5«v^S«5\r>^
'• Consolidated rocks that contain little or no water &£*'v^.$;S

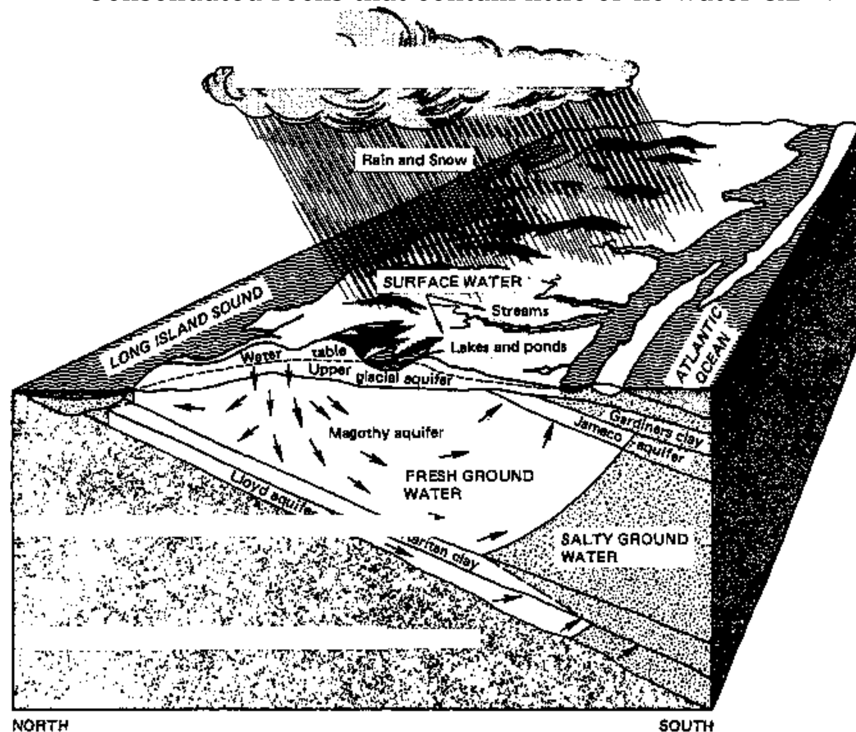


FIGURE 3.1 Generalized cross section of Long Island showing sources and types of water, major hydrogeologic units, and paths of ground water flow. SOURCE: U.S. Geological Survey, 1982.

creased steadily since the 1930s. In Suffolk County, which covers the eastern two thirds of the island, most of the ground water withdrawal is for public supplies and private households. The agricultural areas of eastern Suffolk use ground water for irrigation. Similarly, most of the ground water use in Nassau and Queens counties is for public supplies. In Kings County, on the western end of the island, the principal use of ground water is for industry, and ground water use in general is rather limited.

Ground Water Quality Issues

Long Island's combination of relative low relief, high-permeability sediments, and high rainfall makes it especially vulnerable to ground water contamination. Those natural conditions combined with a large popula-